

The family *Matutidæ* is next treated of, and subsequent to a historical summary a revision of the species of the oriental genus *Matuta* completes the paper. Formal reference to nine species of the genus is made, and others are more or less incidentally mentioned. Five new species of *Matuta* are described, viz. :—

*M. rubro-lineata.*

*M. maculata.*

*M. lineifera.*

*M. obtusifrons.*

*M. granulosa.*

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On the Prehistoric British *Sus*.

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[Read June 15, 1876.]

(Abstract.)

THIS memoir will be printed in the Society's Transactions in full.

The following specimens were exhibited at the Meeting :—1. Skull of *S. scrofa*, var. *domesticus*, from a late Celtic interment. 2. Skulls of *S. scrofa*, var. *ferus*, from alluvium near Oxford and from Germany. 3. Skull of *S. andamanensis*, forwarded to the Author by J. Wood Mason. 4. Skull of *S. cristatus*, lent by Sir Walter Elliot, K.C.S.I. 5. Skull of *S. barbatus*, wrongfully named *S. verrucosus*, and needlessly *Euhys barbatus* in some mammalogical catalogues.

Upon these and other data the author bases the subjoined conclusions :—

1. The domesticated pig of pre-Roman times, at least as exemplified by the specimens from the interment referred to, appears to resemble *S. scrofa*, var. *ferus*, rather than *S. cristatus* or the domestic variety, *S. indicus*.

2. On the other hand, *S. cristatus*, the Indian wild hog, appears to him, whilst being readily and always distinguishable from *S. scrofa*, var. *ferus*, to differ from it mainly by the retention permanently of certain structural conformations which were only temporarily represented in the European wild species. The third molars of the male *S. cristatus* varied, however, concomitantly with its canines, and showed a much larger development of their posterior lobe than either *S. scrofa*, var. *ferus*, or the females of their own species. The rearmost lobe, however, of the posterior

molar varies a good deal in *S. scrofa*, var. *ferus*, irrespective of sex.

3. Bearing in mind the elasticity of the swine type and the power for changing which their domestication has shown them to possess, Dr. Rolleston has less difficulty in conceiving that the so-called *S. indicus* was really a modified *S. cristatus*, than that it had been evolved from any *Sus* (such as *S. leucomystax*) from countries further away from Europe than India. *S. cristatus* had the malar border of the lachrymal always marked by the relative shortness insisted on by Nathusius. It had not the relatively wider palate; but upon this point too much weight had been laid.

4. A skull of a wild sow from the alluvium, later in date than the "river-gravel," near Oxford, combined the short lachrymal characteristic of young pigs and of *S. cristatus* with the worn-down teeth, elongated facial skeleton, and disproportionately small size of an old wild sow (*S. scrofa*, var. *ferus*). Such a combination of characteristics tended to suggest carefulness as to accepting the Torf-Schwein (*S. scrofa*, var. *palustris*) of Rüttimeyer as a distinct species, or taking even such a point as the shortness of the lachrymal as constituting a specific difference.

5. The simplicity of the third molars in the very large skull of *S. barbatus* appears to be of greater value, as the rugose condition might have been expected to be forthcoming in so large, so well-armed, and so well-fed a *Sus* as this from Borneo.

6. The true *S. verrucosus* differs from *S. barbatus* in having the lachrymal's malar edges long, relatively to its orbital, as well as in the peculiarities which its specific name implies. These peculiarities were reproduced in the old Irish "Greyhound Pig," figured by Richardson, 'Domestic Pigs,' p. 49, ed. Warne.

7. The often quoted paper by Dr. Gordon, 'Medical Times and Gazette,' May 2, 1857, p. 429, led us to suppose that *Tenia solium* of man infested the domestic pig of India, as it does those of other parts of the world. The facility with which the pig lends itself to domestication enables us to understand how the many-sided commensalism which now exists between man and that animal may have set up in very early times. Indeed the particular result of their commensalism which their solidarity as regards the alternations of the generations of *Tenia solium* represents, suggests that their coexistence in time must have been more extensive than even the coexistence in space ascribed to them, not quite correctly, by Gibbon ('Decline and Fall,' chap. ix. note 9, p. 392, Smith's edition).